

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07

NEA-10 OIC-02 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /132 W

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FM USDLE MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE PRIORITY 2320

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: MTN: IMPORT LICENSING MEETING - MARCH 7-8,1977

1. SUMMARY: IN TWO DAY MEETING DEVOTED TO TECHNICAL REVIEW OF CTIP LICENSING TEXTS (MTN/NTM/W/73), US PRESENTED NEW DRAFT TEXT FOR LICENSING TO AD-MINISTER IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AND SUBGROUP AGREED TO HAVE SECRETARIAT PREPARE A STUDY ON LICENSING SYSTEMS TO ASSIST IN FOCUSING DISCUSSION AT NEXT SUBGROUP MEETING. LITTLE VISIBLE PROGRESS MADE TOWARD CONSENSUS ON TEXTS. END SUMMARY.

2. AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING - US DEL (NEWKIRK) REITERATED THAT AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEMS SHOULD BE ELIMINATED BECAUSE THEY ARE AN UNNECESSARY BURDEN ON IMPORTERS, ARE OFTEN USED TO RESTRICT TRADE AND THEIR OBJECTIVES CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY OTHER

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LESS TRADE RESTRICTING MEANS. EC, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, ISRAEL, JAPAN, MEXICO, NORDICS, SPAIN AND SWITZERLAND STATED THAT AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING WAS NECESSARY IN CERTAIN CASES WITH EC (ABBOTT) CRITICIZING US POSITION AS "EXTREME". MOST OF THESE DELS GAVE SUPPORT FOR ALTERNATIVE 1 OF PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE AUTOMATIC LICENSING DRAFT TEXTS. CANADA (BASTIEN), SUPPORTED BY

AUSTRALIA, STATED THAT AUTOMATIC LICENSING FOR SAFEGUARD RELATED PURPOSES WAS PREFERABLE TO OUTRIGHT IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AND REITERATED ITS PROPOSAL DESIGNED TO DEAL WITH SUCH SITUATIONS (MTN/NTM/W/11,ADD.7). US DEL STATED THAT IF OTHERS SO DESIRE, WE ARE WILLING TO DISCUSS USE OF AUTOMATIC LICENSING FOR SAFEGUARD RELATED PURPOSES, BUT SUCH DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE IN SAFEGUARDS GROUP. MANY DELS EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT ALTHOUGH WORK MAY BE RELATED TO THAT OF GROUP SAFEGUARDS, THE QR SUBGROUP COULD UNDERTAKE USEFUL WORK IN THIS AREA AND THEREFORE DID NOT SUPPORT THE US POSITION.

3. LICENSING TO ADMINISTER IMPORT RESTRICTIONS - US DEL OPENED DISCUSSION BY NOTING THAT PRESENT TEXTUAL LANGUAGE LACKS PRECISION, CLARITY -,\$:9,:8 3,3 . IN ADDITION US CERTAIN PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA THAT ARE NOT ADEQUATELY COVERED BY PROVISIONS OF TEXT. US REVISION OF THIS TEXT (MTN/NTM/W/88) IS AN ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH THESE SHORTCOMINGS. A PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH DISCUSSION OF THE CTIP TEXT ENSUED, BUT SINCE MOST DELEGATIONS HAD INSTRUCTIONS ONLY FOR DISCUSSION OF THIS TEXT, ONLY PRELIMINARY COMMENTS WERE OFFERED ON THE US PROPOSAL. SINCE WE DID NOT RECEIVE CLEARED INSTRUCTIONS UNTIL THE LAST WORKING DAY BEFORE THIS MEETING WE WERE NOT ABLE TO MAKE THE BILATERAL CONTACTS NECESSARY FOR USEFUL DISCUSSION OF US DRAFT. WHILE SUCH DISCUSSION WAS NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS MEETING, THE GENERALLY FAVORABLE INFORMAL REACTION TO US DRAFT BODES WELL FOR PROGRESS AT THE NEXT MEETING.

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4. IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH THE PERSISTENT CONFUSION AMONG DELEGATES REGARDING THE PURPOSE OF TWO DRAFT TEXTS AND THE TYPES OF LICENSING SYSTEMS THEY WOULD COVER)PARTICULARLY LDC MISCONCEPTION THAT TEXTS ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL DISCRETIONARY LICENSING SYSTEMS), THE US REQUESTED THE SECRETARIAT TO DRAW UP AN INFORMATIONAL PAPER WHICH WOULD EXPLAIN BY DESCRIPTION AND EXAMPLE, THE VARIOUS TYPES OF LICENSING SYSTEMS IN EXISTENCE, AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE DRAFT TEXTS. THIS SUGGESTION ADOPTED BY SUBGROUP. THE SECRETARIAT WILL ALSO UPDATE MTN/NTM/W73 TO INCLUDE US SUBMISSION, OTHER VIEWS EXPRESSED DURING THE MEETING, AND ANY FURTHER WRITTEN COMMENTS PRESENT RECEIVED BY THE END OF APRIL.

5. IN STATING A "POSITION FOR THE RECORD", THE EC SAID THAT THESE TEXTS ARE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED "AUTOMATICALLY APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS" AND ASSERTED THAT THE TEXTS WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED

IN GROUP AGRICULTURE IN "DUE COURSE".

6. THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ANOTEHR TECHNICAL LEVEL
MEETING SHOULD BE HELD AND THE DATE FOR SUCH A METING
WILL BE DECIDED AT THE NTM PARENT GROUP MEETING NOW
SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 18.CULBERT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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